BROWN COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Brown County Traffic Safety Commission was held on October 10, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., at the Brown County Sheriff's Office.

Present: Rachel Constine Peter Flucke Tom Kujawa

Joshua Falk Michael Panosh Cullen Peltier
Dan Sandberg Anna Destree Randy Wiessinger

Dan Van Lanen Jennifer Austin

Call to Order

Chairman Sandberg called the meeting to order at approximately 9:05 a.m.

II. Old Business

Motion made by Peltier and seconded by Van Lanen to approve the minutes from the July 2017 meeting. **Motion carried.**

III. DOT/BOTS Updates

Panosh reported that October 1st is the start of the fiscal year, so OWI and seat belt task forces will be starting again. They might try something different with the timeframe for OWI operations to target OWI drivers earlier in the evening. The total number of fatalities so far this year is 441, compared to 440 last year at the same time. He noted that drivers of pickup trucks and drivers in rural areas have the highest incidence of no seat belt usage as well as the 16-24 age bracket. Wiessinger will work on getting more data on this.

Falk reported that construction is pretty much wrapped up for the year with the exception of a couple projects that should be completed by mid-November. He stated that 2018 projects include a 3-1 configuration north of Lineville to the county line that will run from March to November. Also, painting of the 172 bridge girders will start in May and will be a 2-year project. Most of this work will be done underneath the bridge.

Constine reported that CTH D will be done by November. She stated that 2018 county road construction projects include CTH T in Denmark north to the railroad tracks and the east-west portion of CTH ZZ.

IV. Third Quarter Traffic Fatalities

Sandberg reviewed the third quarter fatalities. There have been 16 fatalities so far this year. Wiessinger noted that 78% of motorcycle fatalities last year were not wearing helmets. Seat belt and drunk driving education needs to continue.

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V. Continued Discussion of Program Called Place of Last Drink Study for Possible Utilization in Brown County

Sandberg stated that for this study, officers will need to ask OWI drivers where they were drinking and document it so that data can be collected after a period of time to see if there is a trend of certain drinking establishments. A letter will then be sent to the problem establishments to warn and educate them and, if necessary, city council or county board can act on it. A list of the establishments would be forwarded to the news media to publish to hopefully get the establishments to work on improving their practices. Sandberg stated he would like to officially start this in January. He will get his officers to start doing it now so they will be in the habit of doing this by the first of the year. All Brown County law enforcement agencies would need to be involved in this to get effective information.

VI. Roundtable Discussion

Panosh suggested that we should find out OWI sentencing dates so the news media can interview family members after court and run a story on how it affects the family members to help make an impact to deter drunk driving. Sandberg will check into this.

Constine asked if there is any data on those getting pulled over for cell phone use in construction zones. Panosh found that there have been 265 convictions so far this year in the state.

Flucke reported there have been four bicycle fatalities so far this year compared to ten at the same time last year. There have been 47 pedestrian fatalities so far this year compared to 33 last year. Milwaukee reports the most. Basic traffic enforcement for pedestrians/bicyclists is needed. Green Bay is proposing a bicycle/pedestrian plan and a safe route to school plan.

Destree reported that for 2018 the Health Department will be focusing on opiate prevention and working on obtaining grants for education and Narcan boxes. She also stated the Health Department office might be moving to a different building.

Sandberg will check with the other county law enforcement agencies reference getting on board for the Last Drink Study.

VII. Citizen Appearances None.

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VIII. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2018, at 9:00 a.m., at the Brown County Sheriff's Office.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Laurent Recording Secretary